

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 22317 022021Z
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UNCLAS PARIS 22317

USOECD

FOR PER/FCA/T&R; EUR/RPE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OECD, APER
SUBJECT: DIPLOMATIC TITLE ARTHUR HOFFMAN

REF: A. 76 USIA 28686; B. 76 OECD PARIS 28102
C. 76 EC BRUSSELS 9391

1. CONFIRMING REFTEL B., I REQUEST COUNSELOR TITLE FOR HOFFMAN DURING HIS USOECD ASSIGNMENT, WHICH COMMENCED 15 JULY 1977. FORM DS-1474 SUBMITTED BY USIA TO DEPARTMENT ON 17 JUNE HAS JUST COME TO ATTENTION THIS MISSION. IT WAS APPARENTLY INITIATED BY AGENCY OFFICER UNAWARE OF PURPOSE AND ANTECEDENTS THIS ASSIGNMENT.

2. AT USEC, HOFFMAN'S PREVIOUS POST, HE DOUBLED AS COUNSELOR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND USIA'S REGIONAL ECONOMIC INFORMATION OFFICER FOR EAST AND WEST EUROPE. IN LATTER CAPACITY ESPECIALLY, HE SERVED AS ECONOMIC INFORMATION POLICY ADVISOR TO HIS CPAO COLLEAGUES, TWO OF WHOM ARE CAREER MINISTERS. HE LECTURED TWO OR THREE TIMES A MONTH BEFORE GROUPS OF EUROPEAN
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BUSINESS EXECUTIVES, JURISTS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, PROFESSORS, AND OFFICERS ATTENDING MILITARY ACADEMIES. COUNSELOR RANK OF PRIME IMPORTANCE IN GAINING ACCESS TO THESE AUDIENCES. HE ALSO MAINTAINED PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES AND CHIEF EDITORS LEADING EUROPEAN MEDIA WHO PARTICIPATED IN U.S.-EUROPEAN CONFERENCES HE ORGANIZED (AIRLIE HOUSE

1976, COPENHAGEN 1977). IN THESE DEALINGS, TOO, RANK WAS SIGNIFICANT FACTOR.

3. IN SUMMER 1976 STATE, USIA, AND USOECD DECIDED HOFFMAN SHOULD DEVOTE FULL TIME TO REGIONAL DUTIES OPERATING OUT OF USOECD; AND (SEE REFTEL C), USEC AMBASSADOR CONCURRED IN HOFFMAN TRANSFER AND REDUCTION USIS/USEC COMPLEMENT. AT USOECD HOFFMAN'S OPERATIONAL AREA EXPANDED TO INCLUDE NON-EUROPEAN MEMBER COUNTRIES OF OECD. IN COOPERATION WITH JAPANESE GOVERNMENT FOREIGN PRESS CENTER, MANAGING EDITOR OF NIHON KEIZAI, AND EUROPEAN COMMUNITY COMMISSION, HE HAS ORGANIZED FIRST U.S.-EC -JAPANESE EDITORS SEMINAR SCHEDULED TOKYO THIS OCTOBER. HERE IN PARIS HE HAD LARGE ROLE IN PLANNING 30TH ANNIVERSARY MARSHALL PLAN CEREMONIES.

4. ORIGINAL INTENTION WAS FOR HOFFMAN TO MOVE TO PARIS FROM BRUSSELS EARLY 1977. DELAY OCCASIONED BY MEDICAL PROBLEM HIS USEC SUCCESSOR. NOW THAT HE IS ON BOARD, HE SHOULD BE CONTINUED IN COUNSELOR RANK TO FACILITATE HIS DOING THE JOB WELL BEGUN IN BRUSSELS. SALZMAN

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